D 9081

F. 201 A
G. 2000-5-3

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

CROSS-REFERENCE SLIP

Sp. Br. Registry OFFICE

CONFIDENTIAL DRAWER

FILE NO. D.9081(C).

SUBJECT:

Attempt to negotiate an Arms Deal By

NATHAN RABIN or Raven.

PARTICULARS	OFFICE	FILE NO.

INSTRUCTIONS SEE OVER

1939-40

Dr. C. A. Bu.

What nationality is Robin?

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL
JULY 1943
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

D.C. in Charge.
Russian.

CONFIDENTIAL

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
S. B. REGISTRY
No. S. B. D. 908 1(c)
27 7 40

F.M. 6.40N.7.40 CTH

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.
Section I, Special Branch.

REPORT

Date July 27, 1940.

Subject Nathan Rabin.

Made by D. S. I. Logan. Forwarded by D. I. Crawford.

Commr. of Police
Sir:
Information
R. W. Yorke
D.C. (Sp. Br.)

Copy to
D.I. (Crime)
Sent, 27/7. R.W.
27/7.

D. L. D/I.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
JULY 1940
COMMISSIONER

Copy put
R.Y.
30/7

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
JULY 1940
(DIVISIONS)

Information has been received from a reliable source to the effect that Nathan Rabin, who recently returned from North China where he is stated to have married a Russian girl from Harbin, has been seen during the last few days loitering on Avenue Edward VII, in the vicinity of the China Press Building and Evening Post & Mercury Building.

According to information from the same source, Rabin was in the Paramount Ballroom, Yu Yuen Road, on the night of 25.7.40, where he was overheard to state that Harry Stuckold, Publisher of the Chinese American Daily News (pro-Chungking) will be killed within the next six weeks. (Note : Stuckold is believed to be returning to U.S.A. about the middle of September, 1940. Rabin was also overheard remarking that no distinction will be made between foreigners and Chinese and that if the foreign newspapermen who are on the Wang Ching Wei black list fail to leave China they will meet the same fate as their Chinese colleagues.

Rabin was observed to write his name, address and telephone No., on a piece of paper and pass it to one of his companions, as follows :-

F.M.
G. 40M-1-40

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.....

.....Station,

REPORT

- 2 -

Date.....19

Subject.....

.....

Made by.....Forwarded by.....

Nathan Rabin, Room 611, Broadway Mansions, Residence Tel.No.46260, Office Tel. No.17722.

Enquiries reveal that Tel.No.17722 is registered in the name of T. Reg. Crank, 142 Museum Road. T. Reg. Crank is an "advisor" employed by the Tien Lee Steamship Co., Ltd., a Japanese concern. Crank is a British Eurasian, half-brother of the well known local family of the same name.

* See D.9233.

While in the Paramount, Rabin was armed with a large size pistol which he carried on his person. He was also overheard to remark that he was anxious to contact a person named Deitch.

There is a rumour current at present that Rabin has been entrusted with the task of dealing with the pro-Chungking newspapers which have been proscribed by the Nanking Central Government.

D. S. I.

D. C. (Special Branch).

INDEXED BY
(S.B.) REGISTRY
DATE 31/7/40

FORM NO. 3
G. 50M-1-40

File No.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

C.S.6, Special

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POL
S B. REG
No. B. D. 7081(C)
Date

REPORT

Date April 26 1940

Subject (in full) MARTIN, A.V. - Movements of.

Made by D.S. Hocking, Forwarded by Supt. Mason.

It has been ascertained that A.V.MARTIN, French citizen, reported on 23/4/40 as having departed for Dairen, cancelled his passage at the last moment and is known to be still in Shanghai. He is no longer being sought by the French Police.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT
26 APR.
To Deputy (Crime)

D. S

D.C.(Special Branch).

QUARTERS CRIME BRANCH
MISCELLANEOUS FILE
No. 131/39
Date Sept. 5 1939

D. C. (Special Branch).

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

H.Q.C.B. Station,

REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL
DRAWER

Date September 5, 1939

Subject NATHAN RABIN

Made by and Forwarded by D. I. Gleber

Sir,

Further communication received by Mr. Gordon Campbell, U. S. Marshall for China, from the Immigration and Naturalization Service of the U. S. Dept. of Labour, definitely show that Rabin's claim to American citizenship is entirely without foundation.

Immigration records show that Nathan Rabin alias Rabinovitch was born in Kopul, Russia, on September 12th, 1909, and that his father Mendel Rabinovitch was born in Dvinsk, Latvia, formerly Russia. Rabinovitch resided in the U.S.A. from April 1928 until his deportation on November 4th, 1932.

Rabin's antecedents were traced by Immigration officials through his maternal aunt, Mrs. Eva Goorwitch, residing Apartment No. 302, No. 1761 Seward Avenue, Detroit, Michigan, U.S.A. Dr. Bella Rabinovitch, a sister of Rabin's on being contacted, made a sworn statement to Immigration officials, giving the aforementioned particulars of her brother's antecedents. He left Seattle, Washington, U.S.A., per S.S. "Princess Alice" for Shanghai on November 14th, 1932. He was accompanied by his aunt and uncle Eva, and Boris Goorwitch, who apparently, subsequently returned to the U.S.A., and are now residing at the aforementioned address in Detroit.

H. P. Flower

D. I.

FILE

HEADQUARTERS CRIME BRANCH
C.I. MISCELLANEOUS FILE
No. 5131/39
Date Aug 5th 1939

D. C. (Special Branch).

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
File No. 9081 (a)
No. 5 5 39

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

REPORT

H. Q. C. B. Station,

Date August 5, 1939.

CONFIDENTIAL
DRAWER

Subject NATHAN RABIN

Made by and Forwarded by D. I. Glover

Sir,

During the morning of the 3rd May 1939, D.S.I. Crighton and the undersigned interviewed Mr. Gordon Campbell, Marshall of the U. S. Court for China, who has been making enquiries with reference to Nathan Rabin's claim to American citizenship.

Mr. Campbell handed over copies of radiograms which he had received from the U. S. Department of Labour, Washington, a Federal Agent in Detroit, Michigan, and a resume of the results of his own personal investigations made locally.

The result of these enquiries show that Rabin, whose real name is Nathan Rabinovitch, is actually a Russian Jew, who was born at Kopul or Kowul in Russia, although he at one time claimed that he was born in Latvia. He entered the U.S.A. in 1928 under non-quota visae No. 50, issued at Harbin on the 29th February 1928, which entitled him to remain in that country for a period of six months. For some unaccountable reason the Immigration Officials lost trace of him, and he remained in America until he was deported on the 4th November 1932. Whilst in the U.S.A. he resided in Detroit, Michigan, his last known address being No. 341 Leicester Court in that city, where his parents then resided. He appears to have been employed between July 1928 and February 1929 as a motor-car salesman by Messrs. Lawrence Motor Sales Coy., of Detroit, whilst between September 1928 and February 1931 he attended Detroit

FILE

City College as a part time student, where he studied music. He was deported on November 4th, 1932, and left Seattle per S.S. "Princess Alice" for Shanghai. His mother, Mrs. Rabinovitch, now resides c/o Mrs. B. (Eva) Gurevitch at No. 1761 Seward Avenue, Detroit, Michigan, U.S.A. According to a Mr. Gurevitch, proprietor of the "Shekar Pharmacy", Avenue Joffre, brother-in-law of the last mentioned lady, Rabin was born at Dvinsk, Russia, and resided at Harbin prior to going to America. The proprietor of the "Regal Pharmacy", Bubbling Well Road, named Mr. E. Lveff, who is also a distant relative of Rabin's, informed Mr. Campbell that Rabin was born either at Dvinsk or at an adjacent town, Vitebsk, which, according to D.S.I. Konovaleff, is situated in European Russia, near the borders of Latvia. On arrival at Shanghai in November or early December 1932, Rabin resided at "Linda" Terrace, Avenue Joffre, French Concession. He was first employed by Joe Farren (American) as a musician at the Paramount Ballroom. He was later employed in the same capacity at Ciro's Night Club, and later at the "Little Club". He at one time attempted to claim American citizenship, stating that he was born at Bay City, Michigan, U.S.A., but could not produce any documentary evidence, nor could any records be found in the above city to substantiate this claim.

A. E. Glover

D. I.

CONFIDENTIAL

(COPY)

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
S. B. REGISTRY
No. S. B. D. 908/10
Date 24 4

C.1. Misc. 26/39
B.W. 116/39.

Crime Branch
April 24, 1939.

Diary Number : 5

It has now been ascertained that the individual known to the informer as "Bran" or "Brand", who is a partner with a British subject, named H.H. GOFF, in the Native Industry Co., Room No. 503, No. 169 Yuen Ming Yuen Road, is in reality one named, ALEXANDER G. TOLOKONSKY (Russian), alias BROWN.

This individual resides at a boarding house situated at House No. 1, Passage No. 95, Avenue Joffre, French Concession.

From enquiries made at C.S.6, it has been ascertained that this man was sentenced on the 17.10.28 by the Chinese Court in the French Concession to one month imprisonment for "manufacturing false banknotes" (C.R.O. F.2654). He was further arrested in connection with a "Fraud" case (C.735/37) on the 28.5.37 and held on a Writ of Detention" by Central Station, but was subsequently released through lack of evidence.

The undersigned interviewed the wife of Mr. Wong Tseu Wei at No. 37 Sun Avenue on the 24.4.39, but she deined that she had seen or heard of her husband since the evening of the 6.3.39.

FILE

J.1.

P.A. to C.C. (Sp. Br.)

(COPY)

C.1. Misc. 26/39
B'well 116/39.

H.Q.C.B. C.1.
March 30th, 1939.

Diary Number :- 4

On the 20th, March 1939, it was learned that Rabin, alias Rakens, alias Raven, had on the 6th March 1939 endeavoured to pursuade Mr. Ralph Lynn (British), proprietor of a dancing studio at No. 191 Hart Road to permit one of his rooms to be used by some Chinese, and Japanese, who desired that their meeting should be private. Lynn consented, and at the appointed time, Rabin arrived accompanied by three Japanese. The four of them went to Lynn's living room where they remained for about two hours. As no Chinese arrived to keep the appointment, Lynn who was conducting dancing classes at the time, became suspicious and went to investigate. He was just in time to see Rabin, and the three Japanese, leaving the premises with drawn pistols in their hands. They entered a large limousine, but Lynn, being somewhat flustered, failed to note the number of the car.

Enquiries have been made at H.B.M.'s Passport Office regarding George Hoshinoya alleged to be in possession of a Canadian passport, but no record of this individual could be found.

Since forwarding the last report no further information has been obtained about Rabin, who apparently fearing reprisals for his part in bringing

Diary Number : 4/2

about the arrest of Yoong Chien Toong(龍劍東)
prefers to remain in Japanese occupied territory.

No confirmation regarding the report that Rabin is now a Japanese subject has been obtained, and the only way such confirmation can be obtained is to make enquiries direct at the Japanese Consulate General.

In view of the above I would suggest that this case be now filed pending the receipt of further information regarding this individual.

(COPY)

March 20, 1939.

D. C. (Crime)

Sir,

The attached memo reveals an attempt by Nathan Rabin to hurl some unknown Chinese to Mr . Ralph Lynn's Dancing Studio at 191 Hart Road on the night of March 6, 1939. The fact that Rabin was accompanied on that occasion by three Japanese is sufficient to indicate that he was acting as an agent provocateur for the Japanese Special Service Section. The memo was obtained from the U.S. Consul General with whose permission I forward it for information.

D.S.I. Rhind

(COPY)

Shanghai, March 16, 1939.

The matter is presumed to be of interest to the U.S. authorities, apart from its general political significance, because it involves one Nathan Rakens (Nathan Rabin) who claims U.S. citizenship and to have a U.S. passport. Rakens has been around Shanghai for some years, has an unsavory reputation, and at one time for a short while was nominal manager of The Little Club on Bubbling Well Road.

On March 6 Rakens, who has an extensive acquaintance among the "night-life" world of Shanghai, asked Ralph Lynn if he could use one of the rooms at Lynn's studio for a meeting, so he told Lynn, between some Chinese and Japanese who desired that their meeting should be private. Rakens told Lynn that the meeting would not last more than five minutes. Lynn consented and at the time fixed Rakens arrived accompanied by three Japanese and the four of them went to Lynn's living room. At the time Lynn was conducting classes in the studio. He noticed that Rakens seemed nervous and went out two or three times, evidently looking for the Chinese who were expected. Two hours passed but no Chinese arrived. Lynn, becoming suspicious decided to investigate, and saw Rakens and the three Japanese leaving the house, all with pistols in their hands; they went away in a large limousine motor car but Lynn, being flustered, failed to note its license number.

Lynn was advised not to mention the incident to anyone until the U.S. authorities had time to investigate the matter, and Lynn said he would not. Lynn formed the opinion that Rakens and the Japanese had planned to lure some Chinese to Lynn's apartment and perhaps kill him there, but the Chinese did not come. Lynn can be found at the above address. He probably knows where Rakens lives or can be found.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
REGISTRY
No. B. D. 968/01
Date

Photograph of George HOSHINOYA
who claims dual nationality,
Canadian and Japanese.

D. C. (Special Branch).

H.Q.C.B. C.1

~~C.1 Misc.26/39~~
~~B'well 116/39~~

March 30th. 39

4

CONFIDENTIAL

On the 20th. March 1939, it was learned that Rabin, alias Rahens, alias Raven, had on the 6th. March 1939, endeavoured to persuade Mr. Ralph Lynn (British), proprietor of a dancing studio at No.191 Hart Road to permit one of his rooms to be used by some Chinese, and Japanese, who desired that their meeting should be private. Lynn consented, and at the appointed time, Rabin arrived accompanied by three Japanese. The four of them went to Lynn's living room where they remained for about two hours. As no Chinese arrived to keep the appointment, Lynn who was conducting dancing classes at the time, became suspicious and went to investigate. He was just in time to see Rabin, and the three Japanese, leaving the premises with drawn pistols in their hands. They entered a large Limousine, but Lynn, being somewhat flustered, failed to note the number of the car.

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Since forwarding the last report no further information has been obtained about Rabin, who apparently fearing reprisals for his part in bringing

FILE

about the arrest of Yoong Chien Toong (熊剑东) prefers to remain in Japanese occupied territory.

No confirmation regarding the report that Rabin is now a Japanese subject has been obtained, and the only way such confirmation can be obtained is to make enquiries direct at the Japanese Consulate General.

In view of the above I would suggest that this case be now filed pending the receipt of further information regarding this individual.

H. L. Glover

D.E.

RESUME OF INVESTIGATIONS MADE CONCERNING

THE ACTIVITIES OF ONE, NATHAN RABIN.

On February 26, 1939, information was received to the effect that a British subject, named H. H. GOFF, was endeavouring to sell illegally one hundred "MAUSER" automatic pistols and ammunition. Enquiries revealed that Goff is in partnership with one, named "BRAN" or "BRAND" in the Native Industry Co., Room No. 503, No.169 Yuen Ming Yuen Road, Tel. No. 10751.

On March 1, 1939, a foreigner called at Police Headquarters and stated that a man, named N. RABIN, alias RAVEN, who resided at No. 33, Lane No. 150, Tifeng Road, (Tel. No. 23163) and was alleged to be employed by the Japanese Secret Service, had commissioned him to find a buyer for the undermentioned arms and ammunition :-

1) 10 machine guns, 50.c.m. in length, weight 12 lbs. each, firing 500 rounds per minute, complete with magazine and 20,000 rounds per gun @ $2,500.oo each. Total $ 25,000.oo.

2) 50 Full Mauser Auto Pistols (1936 model), each complete with one magazine (20 shots) and 250 rounds of ammunition each, @ $260.oo each. Total $ 13.000.oo.

Rabin first proposed that he should interest himself in this deal when they met outside the Navy YMC.A.

on February 25, 1939. During the conversation he mentioned to the informer that if he succeeded in finding a buyer, he could communicate with him (Rabin) either through Bran (Brand ?) at the Native Industry Co. Yuen Ming Yuen Road or through a Japanese known as "GEORGE" (Tel. No. 41346), whom the informer knew to be a member of the Japanese Secret Service.

Telephone No. 41346 is listed under the name of "Y. KUWAHATA, Lane No. 24, House No. 18, North Haining Road."

Subsequent meetings took place between the informer and Rabin at the Navy Y.M.C.A. and later he (informer) met Bran (?) in his office at No. 169 Yuen Ming Yuen Road.

On one occasion during Bran's temporary absence from the office, Goff who works together with Bran, warned the informer to be careful of Rabin. Asked if he thought it was a bogus deal, Goff stated that he had nothing whatever to do with it and could not say whether it was genuine or not, but he was very suspicious of Rabin. He was, however, able to state that Bran (?) had assured him that he had some of the guns which were being offered for sale.

Enquiries made by detectives show that the telephone number (23163) given by Rabin as his private

number, is listed under the name of "SANDY GUTTERMAN", House No. 33, Lane No. 15C, Tifeng Road. Gutterman incidently is at present in the Phillipine Islands, having left Shanghai after being involved in a fraudulent narcotic deal.

From enquiries made at the U.S. Consulate General, it was learned that Rabin's claim to American citizenship is without foundation.

Acting upon the information obtained, the police arranged for the informer to introduce a Chinese detective to Rabin as a prospective buyer at a meeting which was to take place at the Chocolate Shop, Nanking Road. Consequently, at 9.45 a.m. on March 2nd. 1939, the introduction was made. The detective, who assumed the role of "middleman", discussed the conditions to purchase the second described consignment of arms, consisting of "Mauser" pistols. Rabin then stated that the pistols did not actually belong to him, and that he was only acting for the owner who resided in the French Concession. He stipulated that the purchase money should be delivered to an address in the French Concession, to which he would lead the detective, and where if everything was satisfactory, the arms would be delivered. The detective objected to this arrangement and proposed the International Settlement, claiming that it would be much safer for him under this condition.

This terminated the interview, but it was agreed to meet the following morning at the same place. At the time appointed, the informer and the Chinese detective met Rabin. The latter stated that the seller had agreed to the stipulation made by the purchaser to the effect that the sale should be effected in the International Settlement. The seller, however, stipulated that the money, $13,000.oo in notes, should be produced for inspection prior to the delivery of the arms. The detective protested that this would leave the buyer open to either being held up and robbed or defrauded by some other means. Rabin then stated that he would have to leave the matter in abeyance until he had consulted the owner on this point.

A further meeting was arranged for 5:45 p.m. the same day. The parties met at the Chocolate Shop as arranged, and on this occasion, Rabin suggested that in order to allay the detective's suspicion, he should provide himself with bodyguards. They should proceed by motor car to an address to which he would lead them. On arrival, the owner of the pistols would inspect the money whilst they were in the car. They would then proceed to inspect the pistols, after which the transfer would be effected. This concluded the meeting, but they arranged to meet again at 10:15 a.m. on the 4th. March 1939.

At the appointed time, they again met, when

Rabin was informed by the detective that the suggestion made the previous day was unacceptable to the buyer. The detective stipulated that the arms be delivered to a place to be designated by him, but this was refused.

A further meeting took place at 5:30 p.m. March 4th. 1939, but as no satisfactory arrangement could be arrived at, no further meetings were arranged.

At 8:45 p.m. 6.3.39, C.P.C.2018 on traffic duty at the intersection of Avenue and Seymour Roads, who was accompanied by a Mr. S.Abolnik, residing at Apt. "C" 2, No.1248 Rue Lafayette, French Concession, went to Bubbling Well Police Station, where they made the following report :-

At about 8.35 p.m. 6.3.39 an unidentified motor car was proceeding on Avenue Road from West to East with another motor car of the "Nash" or "Buick" type, S.M.C. No.5601, following behind. When about five yards west of Seymour Road, motor car No.5601 stopped quickly with a screech of brakes. Immediately following this, a man was heard to cry out, as if in pain. Four Japanese in civilian clothing were then seen to jump from the car, pick up a male Chinese from the roadway and bundle him into the car. C.P.C.2018 observed that the Chinese was bleeding profusely from the head, whilst Mr. Abolnik noticed that he was wearing some sort of dark coloured long gown. The car was stationary only a very short period, a matter of seconds, before it was driven away in an easterly direction. Neither the C.P.C. nor Mr. Abolnik saw pistols or other

weapons.

On checking the registration of private motor car No. 5601, it was found to be in the name of "YOSHINOBU KUWAHATA" (Japanese) who resides at Lane 24, House 18, Haining Road.

Detectives attached to Bubbling Well Station made enquiries and requested the assistance of the Japanese Consular Police to visit the home of the registered owner of the car in question.

Sgt. Matsumoto of the Japanese Consular Police, however, refused to give the required assistance, stating that his department would fully investigate the case and forward the result of same to the Police in due course.

At 4.00 p.m. 7.3.39 D.S. Nagamune, attached to Bubbling Well, interviewed Sgt. Matsumoto at the Japanese Consulate and learned that S.M.C. Licence Plates No. 5601 were attached to a two-seater Citroen coupe parked in Lane No. 24, Haining Road, which had not been used since January, 1939.

Examination of the car at 5 p.m. 7.3.39 by D.S. Nagamune showed that the car had not been used for some considerable period, the tyres were flat, the inside floorboards were missing and the upholstery was covered with a thick layer of dirt.

At 9.30 a.m. 8.3.39 the car was re-inspected by D.S. Ware, attached to Bubbling Well Station, who found that the report made by D.S. Nagamune

as to the condition of same was correct.

Enquiries made at the Traffic Office elicited the information that licence plates No. 5601 were issued on the 26.7.38 to "YOSHINOBU KAWAHATA" in respect of his "Opel" motor car, which is a 12 h.p. four cylinder, four seater open touring car, engine No. M. 835164. The predominant colour is green with green disc wheels and a luggage carrier fitted. The application was renewed on the 8.2.39.

A search of the files showed that a Japanese named "GEORGE HOSHINOYA", residing House No. 18, Lane nO. 24, Haining Road , was passed as a capable driver by the S.M.P. on the 28.9.38. The car used by Hoshinoya was an "Opel" car, Lic. No. 5601. This man is apparently the "Mr. George" whom Rabin referred to.

At 11 a.m. March 11th. 1939, Mr. O. Boisseree (British), Coal Merchant, residing Flat No. 3, 1033 Bubbling Well Road, trading as the U.S. Oriental Trading Co. No. 133 Yuen Ming Yuen Road, called at Bubbling Well Station, where he made the following report :-

On March 3rd. 1939, a Mr. Wong Tseu Wei (王祖惠.), aged 40 years, native of Canton, broker, residing at No. 37 Sun Avenue, asked him if at a later date, he would act as a witness concerning a business deal he intended to transact. Wong produced a document in Chinese, which he claimed, authorised him to act on

behalf of the Chinese Government.

Mr. Boisseree stated that as he had known Wong for some time, he agreed to oblige him. He was asked to meet Wong outside the "Weida" Hotel, 993 Avenue Joffre, French Concession, at 6 p.m. March 6th, 1939. They met at the appointed time and place and proceeded to a room in the hotel, where Mr. Boisseree saw a sum of approximately $5,000.oo on a table. There were about seven male Chinese in the room at the time, and a foreigner present, whom Mr. Boisseree had seen on several occasions. The meeting broke up at about 6.30 p.m. and the money was taken away by Wong and another male Chinese, whereupon all left the hotel. Mr. Boisseree claimed that he was unaware of the nature of the transaction, although he suspected that it concerned an arms deal.

On leaving the hotel, Mr. Boisseree parted company with Wong, but before doing so, noticed that the latter and another Chinese drove away with the foreigner in a motor car lic. No. 5601, which was parked outside.

Mr. Boisseree subsequently learned that the foreigner, with whom Wong was last seen, was Nathan Rabin, who formerly resided at No. 33 Tifeng Road.

From enquiries made at Wong's residence, No. 37 Sun Avenue, it was found that this person was employed as an accountant, at a salary of $100.oo per month, at the Metropole Garden Cabaret, Gordon Road.

His wife who stated that she had not seen her husband since the evening of the 6th. March, 1939, claimed complete ignorance as to his business matters.

At 9 a.m. March 13th. 1939, the informer called on Rabin at Apt. No. 611, Broadway Mansions, to which he had removed, following the abduction of Wong. The informer noted on glancing at a date block, lying on a desk, that Rabin had noted an appointment for 10 a.m. that morning with Colonel Agaki, Chief of the Intelligence Service. He also noticed that an auto. pistol was lying in a half opened drawer. During the ensuing conversation, the informer told Rabin that the "buyer" for the "Mauser" pistols insisted that the guns be delivered to an address which he would designate, and that he on no account would agree to any other proposal as to accompanying Rabin or any other individual to unknown addresses. Rabin then suggested that the "buyer" should meet him that evening in the lounge of the "Cathay" Hotel, where they could talk over the proposed transaction. This proposition was, however, later vetoed on the grounds that it would be unwise to jeopardise the safety of the Chinese detective, who was acting as the "buyer", as by this time, it was very apparent that Rabin was acting in the capacity of "agent provocation" for the Japanese Secret Service.

The name of RUDOLPH W. MAYER (American) who trades under the name of the Far Eastern Syndicate,

Room No.205, Hamilton House, has been mentioned as an associate of Rabin, but so far no information has been obtained to connect him with activities on behalf of the Japanese Authorities.

On the 16th. March, 1939, a prisoner named TSEU YAH VUNG (周 姚 文), arrested in connection with C.1 Misc. 29/39, who had recently been returned by the Japanese Gendarmerie after having been in their custody for three days, had made the following statement : -

He stated that whilst he was in the custody of the Japanese Gendarmerie at Bridge House, he got into conversation with a Cantonese prisoner, named Wong, who stated that he had been arrested with one other, whilst negotiating an arms deal with a foreigner. They had first visited the "Weida" Hotel and had then been driven by the foreigner to Hart Road, where a number of Japanese surrounded the car and arrested them.

He subsequently learned in a conversation he had with another prisoner, named YOONG CHIEN TOONG (熊 劍 東), that they had been arrested together and that Wong was supposed to be an employee of the Metropole Ball Room.

Yoong Chien Toong was formerly the leader of a Chinese Guerilla Unit, which operated in the Shanghai Area. A number of his followers were arrested during January, 1938, subsequently handed over to the Japanese authorities and executed. (See C.Misc.102/38).

On the 20th. March, 1939, it was learned that Rabin had, on the 6th. March, 1939, endeavoured to pursuade Mr. RALPH LYNN (British), Proprietor of a dancing studio at No. 191 Hart Road, to permit one of his rooms to be used by some Chinese and Japanese, who desired that their meeting should be private. Lynn, consented and at the appointed time, Rabin arrived accompanied by three Japanese. The four of them went to Lynn's living room, where they remained for about two hours. As no Chinese arrived to keep the alleged appointment, Lynn who was conducting dancing classes at the time, became suspicious and went to investigate. He was just in time to see Rabin and the three Japanese leaving the premises with drawn pistols in their hands. They entered a large limousine, but Lynn, being somewhat flustered, failed to note the number of the car.

H. C. Glover

D. I.

D. C. (Special Branch).

H. Q. C. B.

C.1 Misc. 26/39. C. 1

B'W.Misc.116/39. March 18, 39.

3

CONFIDENTIAL

Mention is made in Diary No.4, B'Well Misc. 116/39 of Rudolph W. Mayer (American Jew), who trades under the name of the "Far Eastern Syndicate", Room No. 205 Hamilton House, as an associate of Nathan Rabin.

Mayer is alleged to be a remittance man, brother of one of the principals in the firm of Messrs. Metro - Goldwyn, Mayer, well known Hollywood motion picture producers of Hollywood, California, U.S.A. It is said that he is, or was, in receipt of U.S.$500.00, per month. He has been concerned in several shady business concerns, and is apparently wholly unscrupulous.

In the initial diary, the undersigned mentioned that the informer, in this case, stated that Rabin was associated with Mayer, but in exactly what capacity could not be ascertained. It is possible that these two men were concerned in the removal of goods from the areas occupied by the Japanese Military and that Rabin was mainly instrumental in making the necessary arrangements with certain Japanese, which made this possible.

The informer has met Rabin in his flat on several occasions, since the last diary was forwarded, & Rabin is still anxious that the "arms deal" should not be allowed to lapse, but in view of the danger to

D.I. Chu Shou Ling, no further meeting has been arranged The informer was instructed by Rubin that he in communicating with him by telephone should ask for " Mr. Washington".

At about 2:45 p.m. on the 15th. March, 1930, a Mr. Robert Read, a Reservist of the U.S.Navy, residing at the Foreign Y.M.C.A., called on the undersigned when he divulged the following information : -

He stated that, at about 5:30 p.m. on the 6th. March, 1930, he was partaking of some light refreshment at the American Ex-Service Men's Club, 106 Peking Road, when Rubin approached him and asked him if he would like to go for a motor car drive with him. Having nothing better to do, he consented, and Rubin drove to Avenue Joffre, French Concession.

On nearing the Weida Hotel, Rubin suggested that they should visit some friends of his. As they alighted from the car, Mr. Read met Mr. G.Boisserie, whom he knew casually. Mr. Boisserie stated that he had come to the hotel at the request of a Chinese friend, who had asked him to witness a business transaction. They all entered the hotel together, and Rubin led Mr. Read to a room situated either on the first or second floor. He was surprised when Mr. Boisserie followed them.

Entering the room, they met a number of Chinese who at once started to discuss something in Chinese which Mr. Read did not understand. He did not quite know what to think of the matter until one of the Chinese locked the door. He then became alarmed and informed Rabin that he was leaving, but as told that this was impossible until the transaction was concluded. He was not told what kind of a transaction was taking place, but saw the Chinese counting a large sum of money.

As soon as the door was unlocked, Mr. Read made his way downstairs and waited outside the entrance.

Rabin came out with two of the Chinese and talked excitedly with them for a few minutes. They then entered a motor car No.5601, which was parked at the kerb, and Rabin drove off at a fast pace in a westerly direction. Several other Chinese who were standing on the pavement then entered a car which was parked immediately behind Rabin's and drove off after him.

Mr. Read then spoke to Mr. Reinecke and asked him what it all meant, but the latter could not give him any more details, other than that he had been asked by a Chinese friend to witness the paying over of a large sum of money.

The following morning, two male Chinese who were accompanied by Mr. Boisserie, called on Mr. Read at the Foreign Y.M.C.A. and asked him if he knew where Mr. Wong was, as he had not returned to his home. On Mr. Read stating that he did not know and explaining how he came to be in Rabin's company, one of the Chinese informed him that he intended to find Rabin, and shoot him. With that the men left the room and Mr. Read not knowing what to do, consulted Mr. Carol Alcott, well known radio commentator, who advised him to see the undersigned.

Mr. Read assured the undersigned that what he had stated was absolutely true, and that he knew nothing of Rabin's intentions.

He further stated that as a Naval Reservist, drawing a pension of U.S. $.$104.00 per month, he was afraid that should the American Authorities hear of this incident, he would possibly be deprived of his pension, a very serious matter for a man of 47 years of age. The undersigned is convinced that Mr. Read's story is true, otherwise he would not have divulged the above information to the Police, as Mr. Boisserie knowing of Mr. Read's plight, took care not to mention his name either to detectives attached to B'Well or the French Police, when

he was questioned regarding this matter. Mr. Read has further undertaken to co-operate with the Police, should any action be taken against Rabin. In view of this, the undersigned would respectfully suggest that Mr. Read's name be with-held should this case be brought to the knowledge of the American Authorities.

As suspects arrested in connection with a similar case (C.I Misc.29/30) were in the custody of the French Police, Mr. Read accompanied the undersigned to Lukawei Station, where an identification parade was held, but he could not identify any of the persons paraded before him.

With the assistance of Det.Sgt. Yankovsky of the French Police, the "Weida Hotel" was visited.

The 1st. and 2nd. floors were visited but Mr. Read could not definitely point out the room where the meeting took place.

On the 16th. March, 1930, D. I. Chu Shou Ling informed the undersigned that a prisoner, named Tsou Yah Vung (周雅勇), arrested in connection with C.I Misc. No. 29/30, who had recently been returned by the Japanese Gendarmerie after having been in their custody for three days, had made the following statement to him :-

He stated that whilst he was in the custody

of the Japanese Gendarmerie at Bridge House, he got into conversation with a Cantonese prisoner, named Wong, who stated that he had been arrested with one other, whilst negotiating an arms deal with a foreigner. They had first visited the "Wdids" Hotel, and had then been driven by the foreigner to Hart Road, where a number of Japanese surrounded the car and arrested them.

The following day, a man whom he subsequently learned was Yeong Chien Teong (熊劍東), leader of a guerilla unit, was brought to the cell, where he was confronted by the man, Wong. Yeong addressed Wong and said that he had confessed everything, and advised the latter to fleow suit.

Tseu Yah Vung (周亞文) on being shown a photograph of Wong, stated that he could not positively identify it. He, however, mentioned that Wong had a mark on his forehead, which tallies with a description given by Mr. Read.

At about 8 a.m. 15th. March, 1943, D.S.I. Tilton attached to B'Well, informed the undersigned that following the receipt of information to the effect that at 8/30 a.m. that morning, Robin, who was armed and under the influence of drink, was in the "Winter Garden" Cabaret, this address had been visited, but Robin had already left the premises.

On the 17th. March, 1939, D.S. Bradley, attached to C.1 met a French citizen named Victor Martin, who informed him that during the early morning of the 15th. March, 1939, he had met Rabin in the "Winter Gardens".

Rabin, who was armed, and under the influence of drink, boasted of his part in the "Weida" Hotel case, and defied either the police of the International Settlement or French Concession to arrest him as he had become a Japanese subject and had been granted a passport.

The informer, employed by C.1 in this case, stated that Rabin had once shown him a document issued by the Japanese authorities, which he took to be a passport.

During the morning of the 17th.March, 1939, Mr. C.Boisserie (British) was interviewed by the undersigned. No further information other than that contained in a report submitted by B'Well could be learned, he denying that he had any ulterior motive in accompanying the missing man Wong on the night of the latter's abduction.

With further reference to the man, Koong Chien Teong, details concerning this man's former activities

as a guerilla leader are contained in Central Misc. 102/38.

D. I.

Statement of TSEU YAH VUNG (周雅文): 30, M/Lawyer,
Taken at C. 1 on March 16, 1939.

My name is Tseu Yah Vung, aged 30, native of Changchow, married, lawyer, residing at House 3, Lane 642, Chengtu Road.

On the early morning of 8.3.39 (6 a.m.) police visited my house and placed me under arrest. I was then taken to Crime Branch HQ's, S.M.P. wherefrom I was handed over at 6.30 p.m. into the custody of the Japanese Gendarmerie, who brought me to their headquarters at Hongkew for questioning, after which I was detained in a cell together with 8 or 9 others, amongst whom there were 2 Japanese and one Cantonese, the latter having a blue scar on the face. Shortly afterwards, I began talking to the Cantonese, enquiring the reason of his detention and how he had received the wound on his face. After some moments' hesitation, he informed me that the blue scar on his face was his birth mark, and that he had been arrested in the following manner :-

He stated that on the 6.3.39, in order to negotiate a certain business, a foreigner accompanied him to Room 309 of the Weida Hotel on Ave. Joffre, F. C. to interview one named "Wong". Shortly after arrival in the Weida Hotel, Wong, the foreigner and the Cantonese boarded the foreigner's car which was waiting outside, proceeding to negotiate the business somewhere else. However, on reaching a spot on Hart Road, the car was stopped by a party of men, who at once placed them under arrest.

He spoke in a half Cantonese and half Shanghai dialect, and I experienced great difficulty in learning the foregoing facts from him.

Prior to my being handed back to the S.M.P. I was warned by the Japanese officers in Hongkew, that I should by no means divulge anything which I had learned during my detention in Hongkew. Before I was brought away, however, the Cantonese also

requested that what he had told me should be kept secret.

During my detention in Hongkew, I also met Yoong Chien Toong in the cells. As far as I have learned, Yoong was arrested at the same time with the Cantonese, whose name was "Wong", a man of about 5'4", slim build, dark complexion, foreign clothes and wearing a blue scar which almost covered half of his left face. Wong was supposed to be employed by the accounts office of the Metropole Ball Room and his residence was located at the An Loh Faung, near the Corner of Gordon and Bubbling Well Roads.

This is the truth.

Signed TSEU YAH VUNG.

Bubbling Well Police Station

March 14, 1939

Information

Sir,

With reference to Special Branch Memo dated March 13, 1939, I beg to report that S.M.C. Lic. plate No. 5601 is attached to a Citroen Coupe Motor car in Lane 24/18 Haining Road. This car at present is not in running condition.

Vide Misc. 116/39 (BW), Diaries 2 and 3.

Copy for Officer i/c C.I.

D. I. Tabrum

D.C. Special Branch

Headquarters
C.I. Misc. 26/39 Crime Branch
March 13, 39.

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CONFIDENTIAL

On the 9th March 1939, the undersigned obtained information to the effect that Rabin had brought about the arrest by the Japanese Secret Service of two male Chinese, who had met him by appointment at the "Weida" Hotel, Avenue Joffre, French Concession, during the evening of the 6th March 1939 whilst ostensibly negotiating an arms deal. No information was obtained to substantiate this until the afternoon of the 13th March 1939, when the undersigned and D.S.I. Crighton made enquiries at French Police Headquarters. It was then learned that investigations had already been made into this case by D.S.I. Tilton, attached to B'Well.

SHAI MUNICIPAL

The file B'Well Misc. 116/39, relating to these enquiries, was passed to C.D.I. Grubb, by the D. C. (Crime) the same afternoon. Briefly, from perusal of this file it has been learned that the allegation made against Rabin are apparently true, but whether the crime originated in the Settlement or French Concession is a matter for conjecture up to the present moment. If it is deemed that the crime was planned in the Settlement, one of the abducted men being a resident, then, instructions are respectfully requested as to whether this branch or B'Well Detectives should proceed with the investigations with a view to bringing about the arrest of Rabin.

FILE

14/3

The informer, who is working with the investigating officers attached to this branch, visited Rabin in his flat, situated at Apartment No. 611, The Broadway Mansions, at 9 a.m. March 13th, 1939. Rabin who was performing his ablutions in the bathroom, left the informer alone in the drawing room. Glancing over a writing desk he noticed that Rabin had noted on a date block an appointment with Colonel Agaki, Chief of the Intelligence Service, for 10 a.m. that morning. He also noticed that an auto: pistol was lying in a half opened drawer. Coming out of the bathroom, Rabin was informed that D.I. Chu Shou Ling, who is acting as the purchaser for a consignment of Mauser pistols, insisted that the guns be delivered to an address which he would designate and that he on no account would agree to any other proposal as to accompanying Rabin or any other individual to unknown addresses. Rabin then suggested that Chu should meet him that evening in the lounge of the "Cathay" Hotel, where they could talk over the proposed transaction. On this information being conveyed to C.D.I. Smith and the undersigned, the proposal was vetoed on the grounds that it would be unwise to jeopardise the safety of D.I. Chu, as it is more than probable that Rabin intends to deal with him in the same

way as the two men abducted after the meeting at the "Weida" Hotel.

From perusal of D.S. ~~Will's~~ Ware's report it is now apparent that the individual known to our informer as "Mr. George", of No. 18, Lane 24, North Haining Road, is none other than George Hoshinoya of the Japanese Secret Service. It is also now very evident that the alleged arms deal is nothing more than a ruse to entice Chinese Guerilla leaders to come out into the open so that they fall an easy prey to the Japanese authorities. In view of this, I would respectfully suggest in order to protect D.I. Chu Shou Ling that all further negotiations be broken off, unless the arrest of Rabin is desired.

It is also said that he has a Japanese passport H.C.

As George Hoshinoya is alleged to be a Canadian (British subject) I would suggest that this be brought to the notice of H.B.M.'s Consulate.

H.C. Flower

D. I.

"B" Division, Bubbling Well Police Station.

Misc. No. 116/39. March 13, 1939.

Diary No. 4

ABDUCTION OF A MALE CHINESE BY JAPANESE
IN CIVILIAN CLOTHING

Further information obtained by D.S.I. Tilton and D.S.I. Goloobkoff indicates that Nathan Rabin is connected with Mr. R.W. Meyer (American). The latter is well known in Shanghai and has a record at the American Consulate General. He opened an office about October 1938 at Room 205, Hamilton House where he carries on a business under the name of the "Far Eastern Trading Syndicate."

The nature of the business is reputed to be shady transactions, connected with Japanese and involving Chinese who are contacted or induced in various ways to put up money to purchase arms for guerillas following which they are turned over to Japanese and the money "confiscated".

D.S.I. Tilton

SHAN... REGISTRY
No. S. A. D.
Date

"B"

Misc.No.116/39. Bubbling Well
11th. March 39.

3.

March 11, 1939. B'Well Station.

ABDUCTION OF A MALE CHINESE BY JAPANESE
IN CIVILIAN CLOTHING

In connection with this case the following information was obtained concerning the motor car, S.M.C. Lic. No.5601 and the possible identity of the abducted man:-

At 11 a.m. Saturday, March 11, 1939 Mr. O.Boisseree (British), Coal Merchant, residing Flat 3, 1033 B'Well Road, trading as U.S. Oriental Trading Co., office 133 Yuen Ming Yuen Road, came to the Station and reported that he was approached by a Mr. Wong Tsou Wei (黃楚煒), age 40, Cantonese, broker, who resided at No.37 Sun Avenue, on Friday, March 3, 1939 to go with Wong as a witness concerning a deal he intended to transact. Wong produced a document in Chinese which he claimed authorized him to act on behalf of the Chinese Government.

Mr. Boisseree stated that he has known Wong as a friend for some months so agreed to oblige him. He was asked by Wong to meet him outside the Weida Hotel, 993 Avenue Joffre, at 6 p.m. March 6, 1939 They met at the appointed place and proceeded to a room in the hotel where Mr. Boisseree saw a sum of about $6,000.00 on a table. There were about seven male Chinese in the room at the time and a foreigner present whom Mr. Boisseree had been previously about Shanghai.

P.A. to D.C. (Sp. Br.)

Misc.No.116/39(EW)

3 (Sheet 2)

The meeting broke up at about 6.30 p.m. and the money was taken away by Wong and another male Chinese whereupon all left the hotel. Mr. Boisseree claimed that he is unaware of thenature of the transaction although he suspected that it was in connection with a deal in arms. He parted from the men including Wong at the front of the Weida Hotel, when he noticed that the foreigner drove away in a Sudan S.M.C. Lic. No.5601 following the metting at the hotel, and Wong with another male Chinese accompanied him at the time.

Mr. Boisseree added that Wong's wife called on him several times lately when she stated that her husband had not returned home since Monday, March 6, 1939.

Mr. Boisseree made enquiries among his friends and subsequently learned that the foreigner present at the meeting in the hotel was known as Mr. Nathan Rabin, unrecognised American who resided at the Astor House, and previously resided at House 33, Apt. 1, Tifeng Road.

Mr. Boisseree stated he intended to report the matter to the French Police and request them to conduct enquiries into the case as Wong was not seen again after leaving the Weida Hotel with Mr. Nathan Rabin.

A visit was made to the house of Wong Tsen Wei at 37 Sun Avenue, B'Well Road, by D.S.I. Tilton, D.S. Ware and D.S.I. Wu Chen Mo. The wife of Wong named Wong Tsen

Misc.No.116/39(BW)

3 (Sheet 3)

(黄周氏), age 33, stated that she is entirely ignorant of her husband's business matters. She claimed he was employed as accountant at the Metropol Garden, Gordon Road, at a monthly salary of $100.00.

It was apparent that this woman was reluctant to impart information concerning her husband's disappearance or his associates.

A photograph of the missing man was obtained and when last leaving the house he was dressed in a blue pin striped suit, dark navy blue overcoat and dark felt hat to match.

At the house a male Chinese named Tsang Tsai Ding (张彩亭), 27, Anhwei, S/Unemployed, former P.S.B. Sergeant at Minghong, was found. He stated that he resided at Room 26, Peking Lodging House, Rue Roppe, F.C and was sent to the house by a person named Ng Yih Ming (吴一鸣), residing at No.3 An Tao Li, Avenue Edward VII. F.C. Mr. Boisseree was also aware of his visit to the house which was made with the intention to obtain any information of Wong's whereabouts.

Information from the French Police disclosed that they visited the Weida Hotel with Mr. Boisseree, however the latter was unable to point out the floor or the room he visited.

Misc.No.116/39(BK)

3 (Sheet 4)

It should be mentioned that Mr. Boisseree appeared to be withholding information when questioned at this Station and later at his home by detectives.

Instructions are respectfully requested concerning further action in the case and whether a visit be made to the American Consulate General for any information concerning Mr. Nathan Babin.

Enquiries by D.S.I. Tilton and D.S. Ware.

D. S. I.

for Sen. Det. i/c.

D.D.O."B" Div.

Confidential

MEMO. 1239

P.C.

Have this filed
[illegible]

D.C. Special Branch.

NATHAN RABIN.

Alias NATHAN, alias RAVEN.

Unrecognised American, residing

at No. 18, Lane 24 Haining Road

& No. 33, Lane 150 Tifeng Road.

D.C. Special Branch

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
REGISTRY
No. S. B. D. 9081(1)
Date 16 3 39

Headquarters
Crime Branch
March 9, 39.

C.1. Misc. 26/39

CONFIDENTIAL

ATTEMPT TO NEGOTIATE AN ARMS DEAL,
OR TO DEFRAUD PROSPECTIVE BUYERS.

On the 26-2-39, Mr. H. Abbott, Chief Preventive Tidesurveyor of the Chinese Maritime Customs, informed the D. C. (Crime) that he had received information to the effect that a British subject named H. H. Goff, of the "Native Industry Coy.", Room No. 803, No. 169 Yuen Ming Yuen Road, Tele. No. 10751, (Home Tele. No. 74389), was endeavouring to illegally sell one hundred Mouser auto: pistols and ammunition.

This information was passed to C.D.I. Grubb, Officer i/c of C. 1., and it was arranged that Mr. Abbott should keep the investigating officers informed when it would be possible to contact the informer, so that arrangements could be made to proceed with the investigations.

With reference to Goff's home telephone number, it was ascertained from enquiries made that it was located at House No. 1, Passage No. 98, Avenue Joffre, French Concession, and listed under the name of A. G. Lihoff. No record of the last mentioned name has been found listed in the records of either C.S.S. or the French Boarding House Section.

Perusal of Central Reg. File No. C.8857 shows that Goff, during the World War, served with the British

Forces in India, eventually attaining the rank of Major. On demobilisation he obtained a position as Assistant Secretary to the Rangoon Turf Club, from which he later resigned to become associated with the "Excelsior Engineering Coy.". The latter firm went into liquidation in 1929/30 owing to a rebellion which broke out in Burma. He then went to London, but later came to China, where he obtained a position as Chief Accountant with the "China General Omnibus Coy., Ltd.". He assumed the above position on the 21st October 1931. He remained in this position until September 1934, when he resigned after having been reprimanded by the management for having become financially embarrassed and having uttered threats against the Chairman of the Company. On the 6th March 1935 he offered his services to the Commissioner of Police as Officer i/c of the Sikh Branch, S.M.P., to fill the vacancy occasioned by the departure of Captain Smyth. This, however, was rejected. How he has existed since that date is not known, but it now transpires that he is operating, together with another man named Ban or Brand, a firm known as the "Native Industry Coy.", Room No. 302, 169 Tien Ming Tsun Road, which is alleged to deal in precious metals.

Goff, during 1936, resided at Apartment No. 22, No. 1033 Avenue Joffre, French Concession, with an American citizen named Jesse Fry, who from time to time has been suspected of being concerned in the drug traffic, white slave traffic and other nefarious activities.

On the 1st March 1939 a Mr. Alfred W. Jellinek (Sudetan German) employed as a salesman by the "East Asia Trading Coy.", General Merchants & Commission Agents, No. 131 Museum Road (Tele. No. 12366), was introduced to the D. C. (Special Branch) as a person who wished to divulge certain information regarding the illegal sale of arms. Mr. Jellinek, who resides at Room No. 8, No. 121 Wayside Road (Tele. No. 50218), served as a member of the S.M.P. (Specials) during the recent hostilities. On being referred to C.M.E. Smith, he stated that a certain man, who claimed American citizenship, named W. Rubin alias Bevan, who resided at No. 33, Lane No. 150, Tifeng Road (Tele. No. 50103) and was alleged to be employed by the Japanese secret service, had commissioned him to find a buyer for the undermentioned arms and ammunition :-

1. Ten machine guns, 50 c.m. in length, weight 12 lbs. each, firing 550 rounds per minute, complete with magazines and 50,000 rounds

per gun @ $2,500.00 each.

Total : $25,000.00.

2. 50 Full auto: Mauser pistols (1926 Model) each complete with one magazine (20 shots) and 250 rounds of ammunition each, @ $260.00 each.

Total : $13,000.00.

Rubin first proposed that he should interest himself in this deal when they met outside the Navy Y.M.C.A. on the 25th February 1939. During the conversation he mentioned that if Mr. Jellinek succeeded in finding a buyer he could communicate with him, either through Brun (Brand ?) at Room No. 205, No. 169 Tuen Ming Tuen Road, or through a Japanese known as "George" (Tele. No. 41246). Mr. Jellinek recollected that he had met "George" previously, and that he was a member of the Japanese Secret Service.

It was ascertained from enquiries made that Tele. No. 41246 is listed under the name of Y. Kawahata, of Lane No. 24, House No. 18, North Kaining Road.

Subsequent meeting took place between Mr. Jellinek and Rubin at the Navy Y.M.C.A. and later he met Brun (?) in his office at No. 169 Tuen Ming Tuen Road.

On one occasion during Brun's temporary absence from the office, Goff who works together with

this man, warned Mr. Jellinek to be careful of Rabin. Asked if he thought that it was a bogus deal, Goff stated that he had nothing to do with it whatsoever, and could not say whether it was genuine or not, but he was very suspicious of Rabin. He was, however, able to state that Bran (?) had assured him that he had seen some of the guns which were being offered for sale.

From enquiries made at the U. S. Consulate General by C.D.I. Grubb it was ascertained that Rabin is not an American citizen.

Further enquiries elicited that Tele. No. 22163 given by Rabin as his private telephone number, is listed under the name of Sandy Gutterman, of House No. 33, Lane No. 180, Tifeng Road. Whether this person is one named Alex Leo Gutterman (K.948 & C.47/25) who has a previous conviction cannot at the present be ascertained.

Following the receipt of this information it was arranged that Mr. Jellinek should introduce Det. Inspr. Chu Shou Ling, attached to this branch, to Rabin as a prospective buyer at a meeting which he would arrange for the following day at the "Chocolate Shop", Nanking Road.

At 9.45 a.m. March 2nd, 1939, Mr. Jellinek introduced D.I. Chu to Rabin. D.I. Chu, representing

himself as a "middleman", discussed the conditions to purchase the second described consignment of arms, consisting of Mauser pistols. Rabin then stated that the pistols did not actually belong to him, and that he was only acting as a broker for the owner, who resided in the French Concession. He stipulated that the purchase money should be delivered by D.I. Chu to an address in the French Concession, to which he would lead him, and where if everything was satisfactory the arms would be delivered. D.I. Chu objected to the deal being consummated in the French Concession, and proposed the International Settlement, claiming that it would be much safer for him under this condition. This terminated the interview, but it was agreed to meet the following morning at the same place. At the time appointed Mr. Jellinek and D.I. Chu again met Rabin. The latter stated that the seller had agreed to the stipulation made by the purchaser to the effect that the sale should be effected in the International Settlement. The seller, however, stipulated that the money, $12,000.00 in notes, should be produced for inspection prior to the delivery of the arms. This, D.I. Chu protested, would leave the buyer open to either being held up and robbed or by some other means

defrauded. Rabin then stated that he would have to leave the matter in abeyance until he had consulted the owner on this point. The interview was then concluded, but it was arranged that a further meeting should take place at the same place that afternoon at 5.45 p.m.

At 4 p.m. the same day, Mr. Jellinek called on C.D.I. Grubb, and during the ensuing conversation mentioned that Rabin had been associated with Rudolph Mayer (American), but that he was, as far as he knew, not connected with this alleged arms deal.

At 5.45 p.m. D.I. Gun and Mr. Jellinek met Rabin at the "Chocolate Shop". On this occasion Rabin suggested that in order to allay D.I. Gun's suspicions, that he should provide himself with bodyguards. They should proceed by motorcar to an address, to which he would lead them. On arrival the owner of the pistols would inspect the money whilst they were in the car. They would then proceed to inspect the pistols, after which the transfer would be effected. This concluded the meeting, but they arranged to meet again at 10.35 a.m. on the 4th March 1938. At the appointed time, they again met, when Rabin was informed by D.I. Gun that the suggestion made the previous day was unacceptable to the

buyer. D.I. Chu stipulated that the arms be delivered to a place to be designated by him, but this was refused. A further meeting took place at 5.30 p.m. March 4th, 1939, but as no satisfactory arrangement could be arrived at no further meetings were arranged.

According to Mr. Jellinek, Rabin is still anxious to proceed with the business, and as soon as he makes any further suggestions he will communicate with the undersigned.

Whether or not Rabin is trying to negotiate a genuine arms deal cannot at the moment be ascertained, but if he is not, he is either planning to defraud any prospective buyer, or is merely in the employ of the Japanese Secret Service as an Agent Provocateur in arresting leaders of Guerilla Units who might want to purchase arms for their various units engaged in anti-Japanese activities.

In a conversation with D.S.I. Rhind, Officer i/c [redacted], the undersigned learned that Rabin is at the moment living at the Tifong Road address with George Leonof (Russian), whilst Sandy Gutteman, who is listed as the subscriber to the telephone at that address, is at present in the Philippine Island, where he fled after having been

concerned in a shady deal concerning narcotics. D.S.I. Rhind was also able to inform the undersigned that Kuwahata, who at the moment is also absent from Shanghai, is a notorious narcotic trafficker, and some time ago was concerned in selling drugs to Italian Officers of the M.V. "Conte Biancamano".

On being shown a photograph of Rubin by Chief Inspr. Hall of the Traffic Dept., the undersigned recognised him as a man known as Nathan, who at one time conducted an Orchestra at Cire's and the Little Club. This man is a low type of Jew, wholly unscrupulous and just the person to commit a particularly mean type of fraud. In view of this, it would appear that the whole thing is nothing more than an attempted fraud or possibly he is being employed by the Japanese to locate leaders of Guerilla troops.

During the afternoon of the 8th March 1938, Mr. Jellinek informed C.D.I. Grubb and the undersigned that he had received a telephone message from Rubin asking him to call at House No. 18, Lane 24, North Haining Road. As Mr. Jellinek knew that this address was being used by the Japanese Secret Service, he asked if it was advisable for him to go or not. C.D.I. Grubb and the undersigned advised him not to go, but to ring up this address and ask Rubin to meet him on Haining Road.

He did as he was instructed and was told by "George" that Rabin was not there.

Mr. Jellinek was able to inform the undersigned that "George" was a well educated Japanese, who appeared to hold a high position in the Japanese Secret Service, as he frequently travelled between Shanghai and Tokyo by plane.

Later in the day, Mr. Jellinek informed the undersigned that following the receipt of a further telephone message, he had met Rabin outside House No. 18, Lane No. 24, North Haining Road. Rabin stated that he had learned from a friend in the U. S. Consulate that the Police were making enquiries about him, and in consequence he had removed to North Haining Road until the matter had blown over. Mr. Jellinek assured him that he knew nothing of the matter, and Rabin then stated that he suspected that Goff had given information to the Police.

Efforts are now being made to ascertain more details regarding the activities of Rabin, which will be reported on at a later date.

H.G.

H. C. Flower

D. I.

Copy for DC (Special Branch)

" B "

Misc. No. 116/39.

B'Well

8th. March., 39.

2.

ABDUCTION OF A MALE CHINESE BY JAPANESE IN CIVILIAN CLOTHING.

At 4p.m. 7/3/39 D.S. Nagamune interviewed Sgt. Matsumoto at the Japanese Consulate, and learned that S.M.C. Lic. Plates No. 5601 were attached to a two-seater Citroen Coupe parked in Lane 24 Haining Road. It was stated that this car had not been used since January 1939. Examination of the car at 5p.m. 7/3/39 by D.S. Nagamune showed that the car had not been used for some considerable period; the tyres were flat, the inside floorboards were missing and the upholstery was covered with a thick layer of dirt.

At 9.30a.m. 8/3/39 on the instructions of D.I. Tabrum, Sen. Det. i/c., D.S. Ware and D.S. Nagamune proceeded to Lane 18 Haining Road and re-inspected the car. The details given above were found correct and in addition the radiator appeared to be empty and the shanks of the licence plate bolts bore a covering of bright red rust and the nuts were screwed up tightly.

Enquiries at the Traffic Office concerning the use of the S.M.C. Licence Plates produced the following:-

S.M.C. Licence Plates No. 5601 were returned to the Traffic Office on 6/7/38 by Mr. E. Kelen, Hon. Vice Consul for Austria.

DCSB

P.A. to D.C. (Sp. Br.)

S.I.

813.

Misc. No. 116/39.

2/sheet 2.

On 26/7/38 the plates were issued to Yoshinobu Kawahata in respect of his "Opel" m/car which is a twelve h.p., four cylinder, four seater open touring car, Engine No. M.835164. The predominant colour is green with green disc wheels, and a luggage carrier is fitted in the trunk. The application was renewed on 8/2/39.

A search of the files failed to show that Y. Kawahata has a driving permit, permanent or temporary. (Names bearing some similarity in spelling were also inspected). However, it was found that a Japanese named George Hoshinoya, S.M.C. Permit "E" 610, was passed out at Muirhead Road Depot on 28/9/38 as being a capable driver. The car used was an "Opel" S.M.C. No. 5601. In respect of this a letter attached to the test slip states:-

Shanghai, 28 Sept, 1938.

To whom it may concern.

This is to certify that the bearer G. Hoshinoya is authorised to utilise my car No. 5601 for his driving test and also henceforth, for any other purposes.

(Sd.) Y. Kawahata.

This file gives the present address of G. Hoshinoya as Lane 24/18 Haining Road, and business address as 202 Ezra Building, Kiukiang Road. Another

Misc. No. 116/38.

2/sheet 3.

business address given in connection with the car registration is No. 21 (7) Capital Building, Museum Road.

An interesting discovery in the Traffic Office files is that Tatsuo Kawahata, the son of Yoshinobu Kawahata, was the licensee of a private m/car 4902. This car, now detained by the Japanese Consular Police, was used by Chinese for the transportation of narcotics during June/July 1938. The Chinese were dealt with by the S.P.Office, but Tatsuo Kawahata was absent from Shanghai on a trip to Nanking and has not been heard of since. According to D.S. Nagamune, Tatsuo Kawahata is, by common gossip, said to have been ambushed by guerrillas whilst on his journey to Nanking.

D. S.

D.S. Nagamune.

Sen. [illegible] i/c.

D.D.O. "B".

Copy for D.C (Special Branch)

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
S. B. REGISTRY
No. S. B. D.
Date

" B "

Misc. No.~~130~~ 116/39. Bubbling Well
6th March, 39.

1

Abduction of a male Chinese by Japanese in civilian clothing.

At 8.45 p.m. 6-3-39 C.P.C. 2018 (traffic duty at the intersection of Avenue and Seymour Roads) and Mr. S. Abolnik who resides at Apt. C.2, No.1248 Rue Lafayette, came to Bubbling Well Station and made the following report:-

At about 8.35 p.m. 6-3-39 an unidentified m/car was proceeding on Avenue Road from west to east with another m/car of the "Nash" or "Buick" type S.M.C. No.5601, following behind. When about five yards west of Seymour Road m/car S.M.C. No.5601 stopped quickly with the brakes screeching. Immediately following this a Chinese was heard to cry out in pain as, or after four Japanese in civilian clothes dismounted from the car, picked up a male Chinese from the roadway and bundled him into the car. C.P.C. 2018 observed that the Chinese was bleeding profusely from the head, and Mr. Abolnik noticed that he was wearing some sort of dark long gown. The car was stationary only a very short period, a matter of seconds, before it was driven away eastward.

Neither C.P.C. 2018 nor Mr. Abolnik saw pistols or other weapons .

Misc. No. 116/39

1 (Sheet 2)

The intersection where this occurrence happened is purely residential, there being no shops or alleys where additional witnesses might be found for many yards.

On checking the registration of private m/car 5601, it was found to be in the name of Yoshinobu Kuwahata who lives at [redacted] 24, House 18 Mining Road.

D.S. Maganuma and the undersigned proceeded to Hongkew Station and learned that no report of the occurrence been made there (should it have been a peculiar accident).

The same detectives then proceeded to the offices of the Japanese Consular Police for assistance to visit the home of Yoshinobu Kuwahata. Japanese Consular Sgt. Matsumoto refused to give assistance and stated that his department would fully investigate the case and inform Bubbling Well Station of the result on 7-3-39.

No enquiries have been made by the public concerning the missing Chinese and no hospital reports have been received.

Should this occurrence be an abduction it must have been carefully planned with the car waiting nearby with the engine running; otherwise meeting the victim in the middle of the road suggests a fortuitous coincidence.

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1 (Sheet 3)

As an alternative to abduction, it is respectfully suggested that it might be a hit-and-run accident in whic the car driver and occupants preferred to remove the victim rather than be involved in police enquiries.

Inf: D.O. "B"
~~Inf:~~ D.D.O. "B"
Ch. Insp. i/c.
Sen. Det. i/c.

D. S.
D.S. Bagamuse.

Sen. Det. i/c.

D.D.O. "B"